

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE Mojave National Preserve 2701 Barstow Rd. Barstow, CA 92311



IN REPLY REFER TO

National Park Service News Release

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Contact: Mike Gauthier, Acting Superintendent 208-748-9003

Mojave National Preserve Is Modifying Operations to Implement Local Health Guidance

Barstow, CA – Mojave National Preserve, in response to Executive Order N-33-20 issued by the Governor of the State of California, continues to modify operations to support federal, state, and local efforts to slow the spread of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19).

As of March 17, 2020, Mojave National Preserve will offer limited services outside those that support visitor or resource protection. At Mojave National Preserve, the following services and operations were suspended:

- Scheduled interpretive programs
- Commercial use permits
- Group campsite reservations
- The Kelso Depot Visitor Center and Museum, Hole in the Wall Information Center, and the Barstow contact station.

The health and safety of our visitors, employees, volunteers, and partners at Mojave National Preserve is our number one priority. The National Park Service (NPS) is working with federal, state, and local authorities to closely monitor COVID-19. We will notify the public when we resume full operations and provide updates on our website, nps.gov/moja, and social media channels.

Outdoor spaces at Mojave National Preserve remain accessible to the public in accordance with the latest federal, state, and local health guidance.

- Hole in the Wall Campground, Mid Hills Campground, hiking trails, paved roads, and four-wheel drive roads will all remain accessible.
- Essential law enforcement, parks rangers and facility staff will remain on duty and will adhere to CDC and California Department of Health guidance in the performance of their duties.

The NPS encourages people who choose to visit Mojave National Preserve during this pandemic to adhere to guidance from the <u>Centers for Disease Control and Prevention</u> and state and local public health authorities to protect visitors and employees. As services are limited, the NPS urges visitors to continue to practice <u>Leave No Trace principles</u>, including pack-in and pack-out, to keep outdoor spaces safe and healthy.

The NPS encourages people to take advantage of the many digital tools already available to explore Mojave National Preserve, including:

- Our website, nps.gov/moja
- Facebook and Twitter: @MojavePres

Updates about NPS operations will be posted on www.nps.gov/coronavirus. Please check with individual parks for specific details about park operations. Please call 760-252-6108 with questions.

www.nps.gov